



Billing Code: 4163-18-P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
[60Day-14-14GW]
Proposed Data Collections Submitted for
Public Comment and Recommendations

In compliance with the requirement of Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 for opportunity for public comment on proposed data collection projects, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) will publish periodic summaries of proposed projects. To request more information on the proposed projects or to obtain a copy of the data collection plans and instruments, call 404-639-7570 or send comments to LeRoy Richardson, 1600 Clifton Road, MS-D74, Atlanta, GA 30333 or send an email to omb@cdc.gov.

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d)

ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Written comments should be received within 60 days of this notice.

Proposed Project

Total Worker Health for Small Business - New - National
Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), Centers
for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Background and Brief Description

The mission of the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) is to promote safety and health at work for all people through research and prevention. In this capacity, NIOSH requests Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval for a three-year clearance to administer in-depth interviews designed to assess perceptions and opinions among small business owners in the Greater Cincinnati area regarding the Total Worker Health concept. This information will guide the development of a model for diffusion of the Total Worker Health approach among small businesses by community organizations.

Total Worker Health (TWH) for Small Business is a four-year field study whose overall goal is to identify the perceived

costs and benefits of offering integrated occupational safety and health and workplace wellness services to employees among small businesses, and to inform methods that will successfully diffuse the use of a Total Worker Health approach among small businesses and the community organizations that serve them. The data gathered in this study regarding small businesses' specific training needs, motivational factors, and preferred information sources will be of significant practical value when designing and implementing future interventions.

The proposed in-depth interviews described here for which OMB review and approval is being requested are a critical step toward the development of this TWH diffusion model. Phase 1 of this project included interview development and revision. The primary goal of Phase 2 of this project is to gather key-informant perceptions and opinions among the target audience, small business owners in the greater Cincinnati area. Data gathered from in-depth interviews will guide the development of efforts to diffuse the Total Worker Health approach among small businesses and the community organizations which serve them.

About 90% of U.S. employer organizations have fewer than 20 employees, and 62% have less than five. Eighteen percent of all U.S. employees work for businesses that have less than 20

employees. In addition, more than 21 million U.S. businesses have zero employees, meaning that, although they are not counted as employees, the owner is also the worker. Workers in smaller organizations endure a disproportionate share of the burden of occupational injuries, illnesses, and fatalities.

There is no data available on the prevalence of TWH programs in smaller organizations. What is known about smaller organizations is divided into information about health protection and health promotion activities. Smaller organizations engage in fewer safety activities than larger organizations. The need for reaching this population with effective, affordable, and culturally appropriate training has been documented in publications and is increasingly becoming an institutional priority at NIOSH.

Given the numerous obstacles which small business owners face in effectively managing occupational safety and health (e.g., financial and time constraints), there is a need for identifying the most crucial components of occupational safety and health and health promotion training.

This interview will be administered to a sample of approximately 60 owners of small businesses with 5-49 employees

from the Greater Cincinnati area. Each participant will be administered the survey two times, approximately one year apart to assess for changes in perceptions regarding health protection and health promotion activities. The sample size is based on recommendations related to qualitative interview methods and the research team's prior experience.

Participants for this data collection will be recruited with the assistance of contractors who have successfully performed similar tasks for NIOSH in the past. Participants will be compensated for their time. The interview questionnaire will be administered verbally to participants in English.

Once this study is complete, results will be made available via various means including print publications and the agency internet site. The information gathered by this project could be used by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), state health department, and occupational health providers to determine guidelines for the development of appropriate training materials for small businesses. The results of this project will also benefit small business workers by developing recommendations for increasing the effectiveness of occupational safety and health outreach methods specifically targeted to small businesses. Although beyond the scope of this

study, it is expected that improved use of TWH programs will lower rates of injuries and fatalities for workers.

It is estimated that each interview will take approximately 90 minutes to complete for a total of 180 burden hours.

There is no cost to respondents other than their time.

Estimated Annualized Burden Hours

Type of Respondents	Form Name	No. of Respondents	No. of Responses per Respondent	Average Burden per Response (in hours)	Total Burden (in hours)
Small Business Owners	Interview Form	60	2	1.5	180
Total					180

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